

History 499 Fall 2017 Capstone Presentations

Xavier 201 (Nordquist Lecture Hall)

Travel, Technology and Business in World History

Travel is an ever-present characteristic of the human experience. From ancient times to the present, pilgrims, merchants, diplomats, immigrants, colonizers, scholars, tourists, and peacemakers have wandered the world seeking new contacts, experiences, and opportunities.

Although the circumstances of travel vary from age to age, the movement of people across the globe is usually motivated by a desire for benefit or gain, and the journey involves material objects and innovations (technology) to speed the journey or make it more cost-effective. From the development of stirrups, rafts, and saddles in the ancient world; to the creation of deep-hulled sailing ships, railroads, automobiles, airplanes, and rockets—human agents have used technology to improve the experience of travel and make it more beneficial.

This capstone has asked students to consider the fruitful intersections among travel, technology, and business in global history, in order to understand and comment on the powerful contending forces in our world and to relate them to personal experience.

Wednesday, December 6, 2017 [3:40 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.]

3:45 p.m. Damain Alessandro: "To Snatch the Harvest from the Dragon's Maw: The Perspective of Residents on Travel in Rural China"

4:15 p.m. Rachel Friedland: "The Universal Queen: Elizabeth II and the Commonwealth Tour of 1953-1954"

4:45 p.m. Courtney Olsen: "A Two-Way Track: The German National Railway's Dual Purpose in the Nazi War Machine and the Destruction of the European Jews"

5:15 p.m. Victoria Rendt: "*Handel, Geschäftsreisen, Kultur und die Hanse*: The influence of the Hanseatic League on the Dissemination of German Culture throughout Northern Europe"

Thursday, December 7, 2017 [3:40 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.]

3:45 p.m. Allie Lacombe: "Nude Athletics, Sacrifices, and Potential Profit: Pilgrimages to the Olympic Games amidst the Peloponnesian War"

4:15 p.m. Owen Brenno: "From the Steamer's Whistle to the Automobile's Roar: How the Automobile Transformed Vashon Island"

4:45 p.m. Teresa Hackler: "They Only Immunized Her by Force: Uncovering Historic and Modern Barriers to Vaccination Coverage in Nigeria"

For more information, contact Prof. Mike Halvorson at halvormi@plu.edu.